

Name:

### Point of View Exercise

1. Identify a single incident or event in the story you are working on OR a single incident in your life, or choose from one of the scenarios on the suggestion sheet. Write the event in the first person from the point of view of the protagonist or from YOUR point of view if it's from your own experience. (This should ideally be a "French scene", which means that the incident starts when two people meet and ends when they part or when a third person enters the scene.) Always remember to identify for yourself what each character WANTS in each scene. THIS SCENE SHOULD BE NO MORE THAN 200 WORDS. PLEASE WRITE LEGIBLY.

2. Now write the incident in the third person. Again, this should be NO MORE than 200 words. Fewer is fine.

3. Write the scene from the Other Character's point of view (this may be first person or intimate third.) And, of course, this should be the same length as the others.

## Potential Scenarios

Remember, EVERY scene advances the characters' understanding and their agendas. Make sure you identify what each character wants *in the scene* and how they try to get it from the other person in this scene. There must be some conflict of agendas (but remember, that does not have to necessarily be overt between the characters. They may possibly not speak to each other, or speak very little. They may be unaware of each other's agenda.) Do not forget to draw the scene in full, to make sure you have a sense of place.

*NOTE! These are only suggestions to get your imagination going. If you like one of them, that's fine. If you don't like any and have another idea, that's fine too.*

1. An engagement party. The mother of the groom-to-be is talking to the brother of the bride.
2. A grandchild has come over to help the grandparent pack up the apartment/house where the grandparent has lived for many years. The grandparent is moving far away.
3. Two roommates cooking dinner. (Their conflict/agendas could be about anything, not the dinner at all.)
4. Two strangers in a company waiting area are both interviewing for the same job (or believe they are.)
5. Two acquaintances run into each other (at a party, in the library, doing laundry.) They have only been casual acquaintances so far, but one wants to ask the other for a date.
6. A landlord/landlady telling a tenant that he/she must move.
7. A dating couple. One has just received his/her acceptance into the best graduate program in the country, but it is far away.
8. A young child wants an expensive toy.
9. Two friends are hosting a party together. During the party, one of the hosts sees something that is wrong or unsettling (or something that

could be taken as wrong or unsettling but may be ambiguous) done by the other host's guests.

10. Two old friends. One owes the other a significant amount of money.

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